(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Before sanctioning the loans to ex-servicemen entrepreneurs, the economic vability of the projects and marketability of the products, etc. are investigated by the State Financial Corporations. Hence, it is reasonable to expect that the projects sanctioned will not become sick.

(d) Instructions have been issued to Ordnance Factories to give preference to ex-servicemen in setting up ancillary industries subject to quality being at par with other manufacturers.

Small scale industrial units run by ex-servicemen are also entitled to price subsidy of 10 per cent subject to a maximum monetary limit of Rs. 50,000 in a year, for a duration of 5 years on the value of any item manufactured by them and purchased by the Ministry of Defence or its inter-Services Organisation. They are also assisted by way of interest subsidy.

Instructions also exist to permit co-operative societies organised by ex-servicemen and affiliated to Local/State Level Cooperatives, Apex Organisations etc. to supply pulses etc. to Defence through Army Purchase Organisation competing with other Cooperative agencies.

The matter is reviewed periodically.

Posts lying vacant in departments under the Ministry of Defence

397. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts lying vacant in departments of the Ministry of Defence from 1984-85 till 1987-88;

(b) what were the reasons for the delay in filling up these posts;

(c) by when these posts are likely to be filled up; and

(d) the details of remedial measures taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV) : (a) The following posts are lying vacant since 1-4-84 till 31-3-1988 in the Secretariat of the Ministry of Defence :—

(i) 2 posts of Research Officers;

(ii) 7 posts of Stenographers Grade 'D'.

(b) to (d) Action to fill up the two vacant posts of Research Officers has been suspended, as the concerned organisation is being wound up, and the posts are to be abolished. The posts of Stenographers Grade 'D' are filled by candidates nominated by the Department of Personnel and Training and will be filled up when that Department nominates the candidates.

Progress in Implementaiton of 20 Point Programme in Uttar Pradesh

398. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA : Will the Minister of PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the progress made by Uttar Pradesh in the implementation of the 20-Point Programme during the last three years has been evaluated;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the progress likely to be made during current year in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI) : (a) The progress made by Uttar Pradesh in the implementation of certain important items of the 20-Point Programme during the last three years has been assessed on a monthly basis by this Ministry.